



Indiana State Excise Police News Release

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Norfolk Southern Railroad Recognizes Officers for Investigative Work

LaPorte, Ind. – On Wednesday March 11th Norfolk Southern Railroad Police Department held a recognition dinner to honor several officers for their investigation into thefts occurring from train cars. The event was held at the LaPorte Civic Auditorium.

Four officers from the Indiana State Excise Police were honored during the ceremony. Those honored were Lt. Tim Cleveland, Officer Jason Szemes, Officer Nick Canal and Officer Brandon Thomas. Other honorees included officers from LaPorte County Sheriffs Department, LaPorte Police Department and agents with the FBI and BATF. These officers were recognized for their dedication, professionalism and diligence during this eight month investigation.

The investigation into thefts from trains began in April of 2008 and resulted in eight people being indicted on federal charges. During the investigation officers recovered over \$100,000 worth of merchandise. It was determined that over \$660,000 in merchandise had been stolen from Norfolk Southern train cars. Items stolen included plasma televisions, alcohol, cigarettes, clothing and flashlights.